

Waukesha County Nutrition Coalition Minutes
May 27, 2014

Attendees: Wendy Banicki, Jessica Howard (Intern)-Hebron House, Ashleigh Woda-Jeremy House, Michelle Bertram-ADRC, Karen Cumblad-James Place, Regina Estrada-Blessings in a Backpack, Jessica Linstrom- The Salvation Army, Ellyn McKenzie- Waukesha Community Health Center, Mary Jo Michels-WIC, Kurt Schmidt-United Way, Jen Sundberg-Women's Center, Judy Cesarec, Karen Tredwell-Food Pantry of Waukesha County, Rachel Zuniga-HHRC, Jill Herz, Jan Skell, Melinda Stuart, Danielle Knutilla (Intern)-UWEX

Welcome and Introductions: Karen Tredwell

Advisory Committee Update: Michelle Bertram – WCNC Website is being reviewed and updated. Agency Spotlights, minutes and agenda have been added. All members are invited to look at the website and give feedback/suggestions. It is the 20th anniversary of WCNC, committee is looking into planning a celebration and putting out a newsblast. Need volunteers to help. Advisory Committee meets following all meetings and all are welcome to join.

Presentation: National Allegiance on Mental Illness-Sunnie Hirschfield, Veteran Outreach Specialist-
sunnie@namiwaukesha.org (262) 366-4716

Each chapter of NAMI has its own focus, not all programs are available at all locations. Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) does street outreach by going out with supplies (water, food, bug spray, tents, sleeping bags) and looking for individuals in the woods, etc. Also provide help in enrolling in benefits they qualify for, and transport to the hospital if in need of detox. Program works with the police department and community parks to avoid tossing out belongings when sites are found. When this happens, Sunnie is called and will notify the individual that they need to move or the police will remove their site, she also goes with police to salvage supplies. Information on job openings is sent out to clients. NAMI offers a number of support services and educational opportunities for families, individuals affected by mental illness, law enforcement and community members. Some examples include: Housing Support & Advocacy Program - works with individuals that are homeless or at risk for homelessness and have a diagnosed mental illness. Bail jumping, felonies, multiple evictions are often barriers to finding housing. Landlords are more willing to work with clients that have case managers advocating for them. SOAR (Social Security Outreach Access and Recovery) works with individuals (that are homeless or at risk of and have a mental illness) to increase access to benefits. They will do a functional interview with full background, then Social Security will expedite the report and the process will be completed in 3-4 months. Individuals must be seeking treatment. Trainings are available such as Crisis Intervention Training (CIT), a 40 hour course offered to law enforcement that teaches recognition of signs/symptoms and response techniques to mental illness and other associated illnesses including cognitive disorders and dementia. QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) training is available for families and community members on recognition of mental health emergencies and how to get help. Family to Family is a 12 week course available to help family members deal with tough days and understand what is going on with their loved one. Request a NAMI CIT trained officer when calling for help to respond to an individual with a mental illness. Brochures are available with more information on other programs. Many individuals can live fully functional and successful lives after receiving treatment. Email Sunni with questions or for information on trainings.

Agency Updates

Addiction Resource Council-Margaret Bayer- Provides evaluation and referral for treatment. Resources for family members include support groups, information on coping strategies and referrals for assistance.

Hispanic Health Resource Center-Rachel Zuniga- The Senior Intergenerational Gardening Program at NuGenesis has started and has the option of including grandchildren.

Waukesha Community Health Center-Ellyn McKenzie- New brochures are available in both English and Spanish.

Blessings in a Backpack-Regina Estrada-Elementary school services end in summer. A grant from the Rotary Club will enable 20 more families to receive services in the fall.

WIC-Mary Jo Michels- A Public Health Resource Fair will be held June 20th, 11 am-6 pm. The fair will target a Hispanic audience and be the hours just before Fiesta Waukesha. Health screenings for adults and children will be available, and fluoride treatments for children. WIC will be open for services and enrollment. HMO's and other community resources will have information tables. Incentives for families to attend will be available. WIC fruit and vegetable checks for children will be increased to \$8. Currently recruiting a part-time bilingual Public Health Tech. Farmer's Market checks will be available June 1st. Farmers can be trained by Mary Jo to accept WIC and Senior vouchers.

James Place-Karen Cumblad- All hours and services are posted on the website: jamesplacewi.org. A sewing studio in basement is available for people looking for productive work to do. Must be able to walk stairs. The website posts all information on classes.

Women's Center-Jen Sundberg- Regular business hours are Monday - Friday 8:30am-5pm. Any member of the community can come in for employment counseling, crisis walk-in services, or use the business center. A generic voicemail is available for use in receiving phone messages. Call ahead if wanting to use on-site childcare.

United Way-Kurt Schmidt- Getting ready for the annual campaign. Stamp Out Hunger drive was successful but more food is needed. Work is continuing on the "little free libraries" and will be available soon.

Food Pantry of Waukesha County-Judy Cesarec & Karen Tredwell-Stamp Out Hunger drive usually provides enough food to last through the summer. There is a vegetable garden at the pantry that is run by volunteers and clients. People interested in volunteering should contact the food pantry. Last year the garden provided about 400 lbs of food. June 10th and 18th Senior Farmers Market vouchers will be handed out. Saturday June 14th, 300+ container gardens will be distributed, people can sign up now. Backpack registrations are also going on now. Stockbox is now only available to those 60 and older or families that have been grandfathered in until their children age out of the old system. Stockbox funding for women or children was not provided in the new Farm Bill.

Salvation Army- Jessica Linstrom- Busy stocking shelves from the food drive. Last month started offering energy assistance services with WE-Energies.

Jeremy House- Ashleigh Woda- Can take in men in extreme weather for one or two days as a crisis drop-in.

Hebron House-Wendy Banicki- There will not be a men's Emergency Response Shelter next winter. Funding is not available to bring the location up to code. Legislative assistance may be needed. An overall plan and system for ending homelessness is being put into place, but a shelter will still be needed by November 1st to house approximately 35 men.

ADRC-Michelle Bertram- The 2014 ADRC Resource Guide is now available and will be brought to the next meeting. An excellent Newsletter is also now available, call to receive it either by mail or e-mail. It highlights resources in the community. 25 Farmer's Market vouchers are available and will email a list of other sites distributing vouchers with their pick up times. Vouchers are distributed on a "first come" basis.

UWEX-Melinda Stuart-Huber Garden program provides 2 sessions of classes per week (afternoon & evening). Funding is provided by the Sheriff's Department and the Food Pantry of Waukesha County. The produce from this program will be donated to food pantry. Colors Personality Training is available and includes useful information on working and communicating with team members. Contact Melinda – 262-970-4713. Volunteers are needed to pick up food at the end of the day at the Waukesha Farmer's Market on Saturdays at approximately 1pm and drop off the food at Hope Center. 3 churches currently pick up at Saturday's Brookfield Farmer's Market and drop off at The Salvation Army.

Next Coalition Meeting-Administration Center-G55-59 June 24, 2014, 9 am
Topic: Legislative Updates